



UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA

Douglas J. McCarron
General President

November 25, 2019

Honorable Donald Norcross
Congressman
US. House of Representatives
2437 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 50515

Dear Mr. Norcross,

I am writing in strong support of your bill, HR 2317, the Peter J. McGuire Labor Day Landmark Act. This bill would turn the final resting place of Peter J. McGuire – which for over a century has already been a landmark for union members in Pennsauken, NJ area – into a formally designated National Historic Landmark.

This designation is fitting for the Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite, for two reasons. First, his legacy as one of the influential founders of the modern American labor movement should be honored. Peter J. McGuire founded our union in August of 1881, creating an international union for skilled carpenters that has helped create good careers for generations of carpenters. In 1882, he proposed taking a day off from work to celebrate the American Worker – Labor Day – which was eventually made into a National Holiday. He went on to help found the American Federation of Labor and remains one of the most influential labor leaders in American History.

Second, the Peter J. McGuire Memorial and Gravesite is already a landmark. Each year for over a century, union members have gathered there on Labor Day to honor his legacy and all American workers. It is fitting that the resting place of “The Father of Labor Day” be recognized as a National Historic Landmark.

Thank you for introducing this bill, and we encourage all other Members of Congress to support HR 2317.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. McCarron
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GENERAL PRESIDENT